



WORSLEY URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

INTERIM REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR 1943.



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Worsley Urban District Council.

Chairman of the Council: Councillor J. DARLINGTON, J.P.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1943

Councillor E. MANN, Chairman.

Councillor T. TONGE, Acting Chairman.

All Members of the Council.

Clerk of the Council—

H. LOMAX, Esq.

Medical Officer of Health—

C. H. T. WADE, M.D., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent—

T. ISHERWOOD,
M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., A.R.P.S., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Additional Sanitary Inspector—

T. BAINES, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., A.R.P.S.

INTERIM REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1943

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Worsley.

September, 1944.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the fifth and final interim report on the health and sanitary conditions of the District. Again the Ministry of Health has suggested that reports should be confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected the Public Health during the year.

SECTION A—GENERAL SUMMARY.

There has been no change in the general provision of health services for the district.

Scarlet Fever has been widespread, the cases were mild in character, one death resulted from a complication.

Only three diphtheria cases occurred and none were serious.

Immunisation has continued satisfactorily, with special attention to pre-school children. The First Birthday Card scheme successfully appealed to many parents to have their babies protected against diphtheria.

The number of new cases of tuberculosis rose to thirty, this being eight more than in 1942 and eleven more than in 1941. Milk samples were found to be free from Tubercle Bacilli, but the bacteriological standard was unsatisfactory in thirty-five per cent. of cases. A special report on safeguarding the milk supply was submitted for the consideration of the Council, and members met the War-time Dairy Men's Association about the Government proposals for a safe milk supply. Heavy pollution of streams with sewage is still present, major reconstruction of the sewerage system is required, progress having been delayed by war-time conditions.

There has been no excessive mortality during the year.

WORSLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Table I. - STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Area—7,242 acres.

Population—Registrar General's estimate of:—

(a)	resident population mid 1943	...	24,560
(b)	average population for calculation of death rates 1943	... . ...	24,560

No. of inhabited houses, according to Rate Books at the end of 1943—7,765.

Rateable Value 1943—£140,541.

Sum represented by a penny rate 1943—£545.

Table II. - VITAL STATISTICS, 1943.

			Total	M.	F.	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—18.2.
Live Births	Legitimate	...	433	215	218	
	Illegitimate	...	14	9	5	
	Total	...	<u>447</u>	<u>224</u>	<u>223</u>	
Still Births	...	...	20	12	8	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—42.8.
Deaths (all ages)	...	...	334	180	154	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated average population—13.6.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil.
Other puerperal causes		Nil.

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	33.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...				29.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...				142.8

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	42
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil.
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	1

The Birth Rate (18.2) and the Death Rate (13.6) are both a little higher than those for England and Wales (16.5 and 12.1 respectively).

The Infantile Mortality Rate (33.5) is lower than that for England and Wales (49).

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

Table III. - CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1943.

CLASSIFIED LIST OF CAUSES.

							Males	Females
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	-
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	-
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	-
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	2
Tuberculosis - other forms	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Cancer (mouth and oesophagus)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	2
„ (stomach and duodenum)	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	3
„ (breast)	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	5
„ (other sites)	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	12
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Intra cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	21
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	46
Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	11
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	3
Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	-
Other Digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
Premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	-	2
Congenital malformation, birth injuries	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	-
Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	21
All Causes -							180	154
TOTAL							...	334.

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There has been no important change in these provisions during the year.

The following pathological and bacteriological examinations were made during 1943:—

(1)	Diphtheria... ..	12
(2)	Enteric Fever	Nil
(3)	Hæmolytic Streptococci	1
(4)	Milk:—	
(a)	Biological... .. (None found to contain Tubercle Bacilli).	11
(b)	Bacteriological (4 found to be unsatisfactory).	11

Ambulance Facilities.—These are provided by arrangement with the Manchester Collieries. A saloon car for sitting cases is now used in addition. This service has been much appreciated. The ambulance made 316 journeys during the year and the saloon car 695 journeys from August to December, and conveyed 755 patients.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply, Drainage, Sewerage, Rivers and Streams.—Many streams in the district are polluted. It is unlikely that this state of affairs can be remedied during the War.

Sanitary Accommodation.—No changes have occurred.

Sanitary Inspections.—A detailed statement of inspections by the Senior Sanitary Inspector is appended.

Bug Infested Houses.—Bugs were found in thirty houses. Rooms were sprayed with liquid insecticide, which apparently destroyed the bugs.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

Defects which have been found or notified have received attention.

There is no gross overcrowding.

The number of bug infested houses referred to in the preceding section is regrettably large.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

(a) Licences.—The following licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938, have been issued:—

Tuberculin Tested Milk	(1) Bottling	Nil.
	(2) Distribution	1
Accredited Milk	(1) Bottling	Nil
	(2) Distribution	Nil
Pasteurised Milk	(1) Plants	Nil
	(2) Retail Distributors	3

(b) Dairies, Milk Shops.—There are sixteen milk purveyors, other than cow-keepers. Regular inspections of the premises were made during the year.

(c) Farms.—There are 30 dairy farms and 500 cows in the District. All the farms were inspected at least twice during the year with a view to cleanliness, limewashing and structural condition. The cleanliness of the cows and of the milkers was also watched, together with methods for sterilising the utensils, cooling, bottling and sterilising the milk. Scarcity of labour has been blamed for a lower standard of cleanliness.

(d) Samples.

(1) For tuberculous milk (on behalf of the County Council)—11 samples—all negative.

(2) For bacterial content—

11 samples Methylene blue test—4 unsatisfactory.

11 B. Coli test—all satisfactory.

Immediate improvement occurred after visits to the farms producing milk with a high bacterial content.

Meat Supply.—All local slaughter-houses ceased to be used on Sunday midnight, the 14th January, 1940.

There has been a decided improvement in the quality of meat coming into the district, strict supervision is being maintained.

Bakehouses, Food Shops, Fish Fryers and Meat Shops.—Routine inspections have been made during the year. There are no unusual circumstances to report.

No cases of food poisoning were notified in 1943.

**SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS DISEASE.**

Scarlet Fever was widespread and continued throughout the year. The cases were mild, the rash being slight and transient, with the probability that many passed unnoticed. Only one death occurred due to nephritis developing as a complication.

Two other deaths were caused by infectious disease, one was due to Whooping Cough and the other to cerebro-spinal fever.

There were three diphtheria cases, none serious, one of the children affected had been immunised.

By arrangement with the County Police, diphtheria antitoxin is stored at Walkden Police Station, as well as at the Town Hall. It is available day and night for doctors in the District.

Table IV.

Disease	Total cases notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	97	55	1
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	3	2	—
Measles	48	—	—
Whooping Cough	19	—	1
Acute Pneumonia	4	—	12
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	3	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	2	2
Erysipelas... ..	3	2	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	2
Total number of cases ...	180	64	18

Diphtheria Immunisation.

A full report of the Council's scheme was given last year. The First Birthday card scheme successfully appealed to many parents to have their babies protected against diphtheria. Regular immunisation clinics have been held throughout the year. The Women's Voluntary service gave valuable help in visiting the parents of all children between the ages 1—5 years who were not known to have been immunised. As a result of their efforts special clinics were held in Walkden, Little Hulton, and Boothstown. It became evident from the enquiries made that many children had been immunised privately, and that the 47 per cent. of "under fives" recorded as having been treated was too low. A special enquiry was then made by the two County Council Health Visitors; they paid two hundred unselected visits to parents and found that 75 per cent. of the children between 1—5 years had in fact been immunised, which is a very satisfactory state of affairs.

The actual numbers of children immunised under the Council's scheme during 1943 are as follows :—

Age 1—5 years.	Age 5—15 years.	Total.
310	152	462

TABLE VI.

Estimated Percentage of children immunised :

	Age 1—5 years.	Age 5—15 years.
31st December, 1940	23%	31%
„ „ 1941	40%	50%
„ „ 1942	43%	63%
„ „ 1943	75%*	75%

* Figures disclosed by special enquiry referred to in the text.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Table VII.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943.

Age Periods.				NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
				Resp't'y		non-Resp't'ry		Resp't'y		non-Resp't'ry	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years	0—1	...	...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
„	1—5	...	...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
„	5—10	...	...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
„	10—15	...	...	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	—
„	15—20	...	...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
„	20—25	...	...	1	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
„	25—35	...	...	4	3	—	1	3	2	—	—
„	35—45	...	...	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
„	45—55	...	...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
„	55—65	...	...	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
„	65 & upwards	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals				12	8	3	7	9	2	3	1
				30				15			

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1940-42.—These Regulations require particulars of all persons of certain specified ages who have been on the Tuberculosis Register to be forwarded to the Ministry of Labour; the object is to draw the attention of the Medical Boards for enlistment in His Majesty's Forces. Several names were notified in 1943.

Smoke Abatement.—The law relating to smoke abatement has been temporarily relaxed.

Canal Boats.—Fifteen inspections were made during the year and conditions were found to be satisfactory. No women or children were living on board the boats; in no case was there more than one male living on board. No infectious disease occurred and there was no contravention of any of the regulations.

C. H. T. WADE,
Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1943.

Town Hall,

Walkden.

September, 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of
Worsley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Wood and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my third Annual Report on work carried out by the Public Health Department during 1943.

The work is progressing favourably but war-time activities are still taking the place of what one considers the real work of a Public Health Department.

Complaints of nuisances are still being received and dealt with, but owing to the scarcity of materials and labour only urgent necessary repairs can receive attention, as every scrap of timber and metal has to be obtained by permits which are sometimes difficult to obtain.

Mr. K. F. Johnson, additional Sanitary Inspector, left the Department and has been replaced by Mr. T. Baines.

Mrs. A. Hallam has taken the place of Miss D. Overton as clerk and typist, and a junior clerk and typist, Miss Beryl Bennett, has been added to the staff of the Department.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Houses Inspected	224
Enquiries concerning Infectious Disease	246
Number of houses disinfected after Infectious Disease ...	200
„ „ „ „ Tuberculosis	46
Complaints of Rats	40
„ Vermin (Bugs, etc.)	30
Inspection of Bakehouses	61
Visits re water supply	10
„ salvage	290
„ sanitary conveniences in rest centres	25
Inspection of Canal Boats	15
„ Privy Middens	156
„ choked and defective drains	41
„ defects and nuisances	533
Reinspections—defects and nuisances	700
Inspection of Farms... ..	80
Inspections re unfit food	90
Milk Sampling	22
Schools disinfected	4
Inspection of works' sanitary conveniences	5
Miscellaneous visits	49
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Total	2867
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Defects and nuisances found—533.

Defects and nuisances abated—527.

Statutory notices served—2.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The following food was surrendered on demand as being unfit for human consumption. Large quantities were destroyed, but as much as possible was salvaged for fats or for use as pig and poultry food. A large number of damaged tins of food are returned to the Regional Salvage Officer in order that the contents may be reconditioned before they become unfit for human food.

			Weight.
Luncheon Meat	144 tins ...		472 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lbs.
Sausage Meat... ..	202 ,, ...		1138 $\frac{3}{4}$,,
Flour			35 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
Butter... ..			6 ,,
Milk	259 ,, ...		246 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
Tinned Beef	3268 ,, ...		3716 ,,
Salmon	10 ,, ...		11 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
Cheese			72 ,,
Beef			385 ,,
Lamb			47 ,,
Jam	16 ,, ...		128 ,,
Pilchards	19 ,, ...		19 ,,
Pineapple	4 ,, ...		5 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
Oranges			53 ,,
Prunes... ..	5 ,, ...		5 ,,
Peaches	2 ,, ...		3 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
Plums	1 ,, ...		2 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
Bacon			41 ,,
Baked Beans	67 ,, ...		86 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
Tomatoes	17 ,, ...		32 ,,
Peas	1 ,, ...		1 ,,
Ox Tongue			60 ,,
Vegetable Stew	3 ,, ...		6 ,,
Dried Beans			200 ,,
Miscellaneous	6 ,, ...		15 $\frac{1}{2}$,,
	4024 tins. ...		6789 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs.
			or
			3 tons 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lbs.

COLLECTION OF REFUSE AND SALVAGE.

We have three Vulcan wagons with steel trailers and two Karrier Bantam wagons in constant use for the collection of salvage and refuse. Approximately 5,000 tons of refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at Berryfield.

The amount of salvage collected during the year was 419 tons, 11 cwts. 2 qrs., an increase of over 40 tons on the previous year's collection. This was sold for £1,436 3s. 9d.

The amount of edible waste collected and sent to Bolton for conversion into pig food remained fairly constant during the year in spite of licences granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to private collectors. 193 tons 15 cwts. were collected and sold for £290 12s. 6d. This was more than double the amount realised the previous year.

During the autumn a National Book Recovery and Salvage Drive was organised.

This district collected 80,335 books, of which 47,000 were sent to the Forces.

The following list shows the composition of the salvage and the amount collected each month.

SALVAGE COLLECTED DURING THE YEAR 1943 WAS MADE UP AS FOLLOWS:—

Material.	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Paper... ..	176	5	1	951	3	8
Kitchen Waste	193	15	0	290	12	6
Iron	18	19	0	33	3	1
Textiles	16	19	2	101	17	0
Rubber	2	2	1	2	2	3
Bottles	5	18	2	14	0	0
Bones	4	11	1	21	15	6
Lead	0	7	2	5	7	8
String	0	5	0	1	0	0
Aluminium	0	3	3	10	6	3
Brass	0	3	2	3	6	7
Copper	0	1	0	1	9	3
Totals	419	11	2	1436	3	9

LIST OF SALVAGE COLLECTED DURING YEAR 1943.

Month.	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
January	33	13	1	116	1	4
February	33	0	0	116	14	3
March	35	18	3	108	5	0
April	36	14	1	123	5	3
May	40	3	3	142	16	3
June	30	17	2	102	17	11
July	38	7	2	142	6	11
August	32	16	0	113	3	4
September	35	17	1	141	16	8
October	40	3	0	137	8	4
November... ..	32	17	1	100	16	4
December	29	3	0	90	12	2
	419	11	2	1436	3	9

In addition to the above work the usual routine of the department is proceeding as smoothly as war-time conditions allow. Every complaint is investigated and dealt with as circumstances permit. Rat baits are provided and placed where necessary. Powder and insecticides are issued when required. Disinfectants are supplied in all cases of infectious disease and when otherwise necessary. Ambulance facilities are provided. Camp sites are inspected and the removal of refuse arranged.

During the year 22 licences for the storage of petrol were issued and 4 for the storage of calcium carbide.

Bakehouses, farms, dairies, factories, food premises and canal boats are kept under observation and the whole District is being supervised as consistently as possible.

I have the honour to be,

Madam and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

THOMAS ISHERWOOD,

Senior Sanitary Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

